



United States Senate and House Override President's Veto of WRDA 2007

November 8, 2007

The Senate voted today to override the President's veto of the Water Resources Development Act 2007 (WRDA). The Senate's vote was 79-14 to overturn the veto. Along with the House's vote to override the veto on Tuesday (which was a 361-54 vote), the \$23 billion WRDA 2007 will now become law. While this is a victory, the funding called for in WRDA 2007 still needs to be appropriated.

Through WRDA, a number of water resources studies and projects are authorized, including a number of Great Lakes projects. One that is of particular importance and that needs urgent attention is funding for the completion and continued operation of the electronic carp barrier on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. This barrier is the lone defense keeping Asian carp out of the Great Lakes, and it must be improved and completed. Should the carp get into the Great Lakes, the potential implications for the ecosystem and the multibillion dollar sport and commercial fishery could be devastating. This would also add to the biological destruction coming from over 180 invasive species in the Great Lakes already.

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